
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6682 (as amended by House “A” and “B”)*

AN ACT CONCERNING COLLABORATION BETWEEN BOARDS OF EDUCATION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires a local or regional school board to adopt and implement a policy or enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with a local law enforcement agency or the Division of State Police defining the role and responsibility of any sworn police officer placed in a school under an agreement with the police agency. These policies and MOUs must address daily interactions between students, school personnel, and police officers, as well as the use of a graduated response model for student discipline (see BACKGROUND).

By law, each local and regional school board must submit to the education commissioner annual strategic school profile (SSP) data (e.g., student performance). The bill requires the data to also include measures of (1) in-school and out-of-school suspensions and expulsions and (2) school-based arrests. The bill requires the State Department of Education (SDE) to include the arrest numbers in the SSP report it prepares for each school. It must also (1) disaggregate arrest information by school, race, ethnicity, gender, age, disability status, and type of offense and (2) make it available through the public school information system. The system is a student-tracking database that protects individual confidentiality, yet makes information available for limited purposes.

*House Amendment “A” requires SDE to include arrest numbers in each school’s SSP and removes English language learner status from the list of measures by which SDE disaggregate arrests.

*House Amendment “B” requires school board SSP data to contain measures of in-school suspensions and out-of-school suspensions and

expulsions, instead of measures of discipline.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

SCHOOL-BASED ARRESTS

The bill defines a “school-based arrest” as an arrest, on school property during the school day or at a school-sponsored activity on or off school property, of a student enrolled in a school under the jurisdiction of a local or regional board of education responsible for submitting the SSP. “Measures of school-based arrests” means the number of arrests made that year at each school in the reporting district.

BACKGROUND

Graduated Response Model

The Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee, which advises the governor and the Office of Policy and Management on juvenile justice and delinquency prevention, developed a model MOU for use between districts and police departments. The graduated response model in its MOU contains guidelines on classroom intervention; school administrative intervention, assessment, and service provision; and law enforcement intervention.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 40 Nay 4 (04/19/2013)

Education Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 26 Nay 2 (05/16/2013)